



File Code: 2210/2230

Date: March 14, 2011

Mrs. Nancy Shiew  
23755 N. Highway 89  
Paulden, AZ 86334

Dear Nancy:

This document contains your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) for the Tule Allotment during the 2011 grazing season. This AOI is part of your Term Grazing Permit as indicated in part three of your permit.

### 1. Season of Use and Numbers to be Grazed

Your 2011 annual validation will allow for the following livestock numbers and periods of use:

**20 horses from February 5 to December 15, 2011\***

**300 cattle from May 15 to December 15, 2011\***

### 2. 2011 Pasture Sequence

Pasture	Period of Use	Number of Days
May	February 5 to May 15 (horses) May 15 to 29 (cattle)	100 15
Tule	May 30 to July 13 (horses & cattle)	45
Lee	July 14 to August 27 (horses & cattle)	45
White Horse	August 28 to October 11 (horses & cattle)	45
Sycamore	October 12 to November 10 (horses & cattle)	30
Pocket/Wagner*	November 11 to December 15*	35
Pine	RESTED	0

\*Livestock may have to move off the Forest prior to December 15, depending on forage conditions and/or weather (ex: no regrowth from last season due to drought, forage utilization by wildlife and/or livestock is approaching 30%, heavy snow is expected which will limit access to these pastures, etc.).

Livestock are to be actively herded from one pasture to the other. It is your responsibility to ensure that all livestock are removed from each pasture or off the Forest within 5 days of the scheduled off date. If you cannot meet this time frame, you must contact the Forest Service before this period has expired to request an extension.

Without prior notification from you and Forest Service approval, any livestock remaining in pastures or on the Forest after the off-dates are permit violations and may result in suspension or cancellation of all, or a portion of your Term Grazing Permit.



### **3. Allowable Use (Utilization) Guidelines**

Allowable use in the May Pasture is 30%. This equates to the lower end of conservative intensity: approximately equal to a maximum of 30-40% utilization of forage standing crop at the end of the growing season (approximately November 15).

Allowable Use for the remainder of the Tule Allotment is 40% in the key areas (conservative intensity).

Allowable use is 20% in Mexican Spotted owl and/or Northern Goshawk habitat. This equates to light intensity in the upland, forested areas of the allotment.

Mexican Spotted owl restricted habitat is scattered within every pasture; Protected Habitat is found entirely below the rims of Sycamore and Tule Canyons. Northern Goshawk habitat is found in the Tule, Pine, White Horse, Lee, and Sycamore pastures.

Allowable Use Standards must not be exceeded in key areas of the allotment. Key areas are identified as areas that have easy access for livestock, are close to watering points (1/4 to 1 mile away), and have desirable species composition and vigor for the specific area.

### **4. Livestock Distribution**

Grazing Intensity will be more uniform across the pasture if livestock are well distributed. Distribution aids include: water hauls, waterlot control, salt and supplement stations, and herding. Livestock may remain in each pasture for the entire grazing period if Grazing Intensity does not exceed the Allowable Use Standard. Areas exempt from this requirement are lands within 1/4 mile of permanent water sources that are not fenced.

The following requirements apply to the use of salt, supplements, water hauls and/or hay (*the use of certified weed-free hay is encouraged*):

- Place in areas of light utilization, at least 1/4 mile away from permanent water, and at different sites from the previous year.
- Place salt in portable containers, rather than directly on the ground, in order to protect the soil.
- Place on soils that are not fragile or eroding and on sites that are not in wetlands or drainages.
- Remove the salt, supplements, hay, and water hauls when the livestock leave the pasture.

Gates in waterlot fences will be left open for wildlife, unless closed on a temporary basis to facilitate cattle distribution in the pasture.

## 5. Range Improvements

### Maintenance of Range Improvements

Range improvements assigned to you need to be inspected and the problems found corrected on a yearly basis. All fences must be maintained to standard before livestock enter a pasture.

The Permittee may request a Forest Products Free Use Permit in order to cut juniper fence posts and stays for use only on their Forest Service allotment. No tree cutting is allowed without a forest products permit.

Hazard trees may need to be cut to prevent them from falling on fences. However, no tree cutting may be conducted without specific written permission from the Forest Service.

The Permittee must follow the Heavy Equipment Policy (December 2008) before starting any work that involves soil disturbance.

### • **Maintenance projects for 2011**

The permittee will check & maintain fences prior to entering each pasture, and will provide the Forest Service a specific list of any tanks to be worked on this year.

### • **Reconstruction projects for 2011-** the Forest Service will provide materials and the permittee will provide the labor.

Pocket Lake Fence #7892A

Pot Tank Corral #7999

White Tail Trap #7704A (also called JD Dam Trap)

## 6. Travel Management

The Forest will be implementing its decision on Travel Management (alternative 3). This decision prohibits the use of motor vehicles for cross-country travel, as well as on closed roads. We understand that you may regularly use ATVs and/or trucks to drive and maintain your pasture and allotment boundary fences. You may also travel cross country on a monthly basis to check on livestock, forage, and water conditions. Authorization for this use is granted in this AOI as long as it remains limited in scope, and occurs when the soils are dry and/or frozen.

## 7. Drought Management

The Kaibab National Forest needs your help to ensure that any grazing authorized during drought periods does not damage the soil, watershed, vegetation, wildlife forage and cover, and livestock forage. Leaving an adequate amount of residual vegetation after grazing (approximately 50% of the plant canopy) is always important in order to maintain or improve rangeland health, but it is especially important during and after droughts.

As always, Permittees are strongly encouraged to reduce the number of animals stocked during droughts. Allowable Use Standards will be met much earlier in each pasture during the Grazing Period if the drought continues and only a minimal amount of forage is produced. If the Permittee is authorized to stock full numbers, it is likely that livestock will have to move through the pastures more quickly and be removed from the allotment at an earlier date because carrying capacity (i.e. Animal Unit Months (AUMs) available) is reduced during a drought.

## **8. Fire**

Be careful with campfires and branding fires. Pile burning is not permitted. During periods of critical fire danger the Forest Supervisor may declare a Red Flag Alert or issue other special restrictions. Under these conditions, the building or use of fires, the use of power saws, heavy equipment, vehicles, ATVs, and other motorized equipment may be prohibited on Forest Service land.

Cooperation in the prevention and suppression of fires will be expected as specified in Section 10 of General Provision and Requirements, page 2, of your Term Grazing Permit.

## **9. Grazing Intensity Monitoring and Recordkeeping**

All Permittees are encouraged to keep records of Grazing Use and Intensity in each pasture and submit them to their district grazing permit administrator in the middle and at the end of the permitted Grazing Period. Data to collect include: pasture name, dates of actual use, type and class of livestock, number of livestock, approximate location of key area, Grazing Intensity class, and date of observation.

Other notes may be recorded, such as precipitation records or observations. A form is attached. If you are not familiar with methods of estimating Grazing Intensity, we can arrange for some training.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact Rangeland Management Specialist Clare Hydock at 635-5623 office, 606-1265 cell, email [chydock@fs.fed.us](mailto:chydock@fs.fed.us), or me at 635-5630 or [mschramm@fs.fed.us](mailto:mschramm@fs.fed.us)

Sincerely,

*/s/ Martie Schramm*  
MARTIE SCHRAMM  
District Ranger

Enclosure